

SCULZ

amazing first issue!

*girls! girls! girls! (on boards! boards! boards!)

* n.o.b.s. may road trip

* celebrity rider interview (who is it?!)

* uk's eight greatest riding spots

the beautiful world of scuz

WHY SCUZ?

Other riders and myself in the North of the country have been consistently disappointed, primarily with coverage and information on riding, and spots to ride provided by current mountainboarding media. Coming from a punk/DIY sort of background, I decided that complaining on message boards is a backwards way of trying to initiate change.

And so, I (Andy) became we (Andy and Welly) and we decided to do it ourselves.

WHAT SCUZ IS ABOUT.

Mountainboarding is a very special sport, in a very special time. It's a new sport, an exciting sport, where the current greats are not on podiums so high you can't reach them. It is a sport not yet suffering from the snobbishness and territorialism that have (in my estimation) corrupted some skateboarding and BMX scenes.

So I felt we were in a unique position to offer a more rider based perspective; in fact a purely rider based perspective. We will be writing (and hopefully YOU will also be writing) about music and bands, about good spots to ride and good times had riding them, maybe even some current affairs and green issues. After all it's our world, and this is our time.

WHAT SCUZ ISN'T ABOUT.

You want adverts? Buy a glossy mag. We aren't trying to sell anything, other than life itself, although we may review products, CDs or whatever (if we are sent stuff – hint, hint!!). Scuz isn't about banging on about mountainboarding centres. Again there is enough media available on the centres available to ride and compete at. What strikes me as unusual is how little media there is available on the other places our country offers to ride.

The great outdoors is being destroyed by agents beyond our control at a pace that terrifies those in the know (and those who want to ride it!!). This is why we decided ethics should play a part in the making of Scuz, and so we thank Footprint, our environmentally aware printers.

SCUZ AND YOU.

This zine is being put together by a number of different individuals, different backgrounds, locations, views, riding style, taste in music. We would like to represent damn near everyone. It can't be done, some say. At Scuz we think that depends on you. We are not here to censor, or to be any authority on anything. Personally, I think authority stinks; it is at best dubious, and at worst criminal. If you have something to say, something to add, or you want to create a network in your area for boarding and are finding it difficult, Scuz won't change your life, we are far too modest for that!! But we'd like to help.

Hope you enjoy. If you don't, please contribute yourself or don't buy in future.

Cheers,

SCUZ



SCUZ MOUNTAINBOARDING ZINE: CONTENTS

riders: (top) Tom Kirkman, (main) Boardstar Matt

2. the beautiful world of scuz
5. this is mountainboarding by rhys crille
6. celebrity interview: the queen by andy w
8. the eight greatest riding spots in the u.k. by welly
12. nobs road trip diary by andy w
16. mountainboarding: a look at the past by welly
17. crossover - the adrenalin pumping world of bowls by welly
18. girls! girls! girls! by andy w
27. environmental riding by jamie mcfarlane
28. ride the hill/nosno downhill challenge by leon dove
30. competition time
31. the dandy warhols, live in leeds by andy w
32. album reviews
33. rock n roll, d.i.y. style, down @ aspire by andy w
35. injury of the month



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Front Cover

Rider: Leon Dove at Glendevon (Scottish Mountainboard Centre). Photographer: Brendan Walker

ADVERTISING AND CONTACTS

This zine is purposely advertisement free, to assure it's readers of absolute editorial integrity and the knowledge that Scuz cannot and will not be bought.

The views expressed in this zine are those of Scuz, it's editorial staff and those of our contributors.

Should you wish to contribute towards future issues, contact Scuz via one of the methods below.

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Always wear a helmet.

NEXT ISSUE

* uk championship round-up.

* celebrity interview - who can we blag an interview off this time?

* dirtsurfing - an unfortunate name for an amazing sport.

* news, reviews and a whole lot of bullshit.

Get writing in with letters and suggestions (other than "give it up!") of what you would like to see in the zine. But better than that, you supply us with what you want to read.

THANKS

Thanks must go to Footprint, our repro house who provide an excellent quality service while keeping the state of our planet at the forefront of their business practice.

Also to Brendan Walker, the top photographer who supplied Scuz with a number of the photographs in this issue.

To all the girls who contributed towards the "Girls! Girls! Girls!" story proving that the female of the species is ripping it up just as hard as the men.

Sacha Bush, Mandy Gallant, Carolyn Kunkel, Jackie, Julianne Lewis, Maria Morris, Kristine Musgrove, Nancy Ng, Alison Reid, Elizabeth Toney, Nik Wainwright, Rosie Wilson, The Queen, Brendan Walker, Leon Dove, Rhys Crilley, Ellen Clarke.

Want to see your name up here? Then get in touch and get involved.

THIS IS MOUNTAINBOARDING

Tarmac, concrete, wooden ramps, dry conditions. Where's the fun? How can so many people be so committed to a sport with so few possibilities? Skateboarding, we've all tried it, we've all been to the shitty council skate park down the road, and half of us have friends that skate so why am I writing this?

Dragging my board up the longest, steepest hill in Devon at 9:30 in the morning while one of many showers soaks me through to the bone, its not everyone's cup of tea. It's not really mine either, but for someone who's just had the time of their life, this is ecstasy. Its all about the ride that's what I've been told and that's what I believe and that's why I'm walking on air. So what if I've just ridden down a hill making a few linked turns at a fairly moderate speed.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THIS SPORT?

Is it the taste of dirt after a hard days riding? Is it the thrill of a high speed bail due to some minor error? Is it the adrenaline rush of landing that spin? Or maybe the fact you know you're into something that will, inevitably, be huge?

Okay, okay. Skateboarding's not all bad but seriously how shite are the possibilities? So what if we cant do flip tricks but how long will it be till some American lands a shove it or even an impossible? We can ride most of their stuff, we can jump those stairs, and we can do that gap. They can't even ride in the rain, little stones throw them flying, gravel proves an effort for them, and how many of them have ridden with the pros? I'm not disrespecting skaters; some of that stuff can look really, really good. I'm getting at the fact that they don't realise the possibilities of this super, mad, crazy, funk that I love. Maybe it's just me and I'm sorry to anyone who's upset by this, I'm not trying to create controversy but after all, how much of the earth is concrete?

words by rhys crilley

rider: Leicester Kev

Rider Fact File: The Queen

* The Queen is the first royal to take up mountainboarding, but since then her riding skills have caught the eye of some of the younger members of the household, including the little publicised Duke of Kidderminster, Prince Dan.

* When not insulting racial minorities, The Queen's other half, Phil, is understood to be a very promising Boarder X rider. Steve Birkbeck, look out.

* While The Queen favours an Azonio full face lid, Harry has a theory he's horse faced enough that any facial damage isn't going to be too noticeable. Besides, it makes backside rotations a little more difficult.

* Having taken quite a shine to the new MBS Comp 16 Pro, The Queen has been rumoured to have approached Jason Lee to produce a The Queen signature board.

* The Queen will not be competing in this years UK Nationals, as has been suggested, but has not dismissed the possibility of entering the noSno Downhill Challenge at Aston Hill later on in the year.



rider: The Queen



spectators: all kinds of hoity toity upper class folk. and prince phil. and kate moss.

celebrity interview: THE QUEEN

The first of a series of interviews with the rich and famous couldn't start with anyone more prominent in the celebrity mountainboard scene. Known to fellow celebrity boarders as Queenie, Her Maj or simply Liz, The Queen took us for a session round some of the Royal Parks, including Arthur's Seat up in Edinburgh, assuring us, despite the nazi rangers known to kick riders off her parks, everyone is more than welcome to session any of Britain's green and pleasant land. Our man Andy persuaded The Queen on his faithful noSno and eventually tied her down with a roll of duck tape. After a little encouragement with red hot pokers, this is what Her Maj had to say.

Scuz: So, your highness how long have you been riding?

Queen: Well I have been riding horses since I was little, but I have only been boarding seriously since me Mam died. I have a lot more time on me hands now without the old battle axe on at us all the time.

Scuz: Right you are. So what set up are you currently riding?

Queen: I'm into the noSno's myself.

Scuz: I see you have bought British, good choice . Are you a patriot then?

Queen: Not really, when I was younger I was in the young anti-capitalist league, I was a bit of a green, but then being lumped with this "head of state" rubbish I found it difficult to get involved in that sort of thing. I think they were all against me from the start due to the foxhunting thing. Shame really.

Scuz: You win some you lose some. So who are your favourite riders?

Queen: Jason Lee obviously, also Chris McCarthy, and Edd Firth is such a sweetie. Terry Wogan is good for a veteran rider, and Victoria Beckham.

Scuz: Nice one. So what's your best trick?

Queen: 540, melon, and the royal wave.

Scuz: Good that, yeah. That last one is becoming quite popular in elite circles; not an easy one to do. So how many servants have you got?

Queen: Fucking loads.

Scuz: Do you ever take the dogs out riding with you?

Queen: Well I used to, but they kept getting in the way. Poor Archie has never stopped limping since he got in the way of a backside 180.

Scuz: Controversial. So, any more of the family ride?

Queen: Camilla's getting a noSno at Christmas, but she's crap. The rest of them are all yellow.

Scuz: That's not very nice. So anyway, do you fart?

Queen: All the time.

Scuz: When did you last have sex?

Queen: I'm a hermaphrodite. I did myself last night.

Scuz: Lovely thought. That was 10 questions with the Queen. Mint.

the eight greatest riding spots in the united kingdom

While out riding over a weekend in just before the thought of Scuz came into our collective heads, myself and the man, Andy, came across quite an exceptional riding spot. Looking back on that spot, as we sat around having a drink and a smoke, a spark hit us. "Eight greatest riding spots in the UK!".

And so the mission to find these spots was on.

Searching the country high and wide, and taking suggestions from other riders, we short listed ten spots. After peaceful debate, fierce argument and finally an all out fight using weapons of mass destruction, we settled the for the spots we present here. There were a number of close calls, including quite an amazing spot around Norwich saturday market that some local lads had been developing.

But when it came down to it, the spots below and overleaf stood head and shoulders above everywhere else we rode, and here we have them.

You'll notice that the photos feature no riders. Scuz, being followers of fashion, rather than trend setters, thought we'd simply steal this quite outstanding method of presenting riding locations.

Presenting... The Eight Greatest Riding Spots In The United Kingdom. Oh yes.

1. The bread and butter of mountainboarding is riding dirty great hills. Runs like this, complete with a natural dirt bowl as you can see in the centre of the photo, is the reason I get out of bed on a Saturday morning to go ride. While the intention behind the "eight greatest mountainboarding spots" was to find something for all levels of rider, this is very much a spot for the more experienced rider, but one that will reward the rider time and time again.

2. A beautiful sunny day and perfect steep, wide hills for pure carving pleasure. Some riders love technical riding, giving it their all down the most fierce Boarder X courses, but some prefer the wind blowing in their face, as they carve from turn to turn, getting low to the ground and holding on for dear life. But this is the kind of riding that makes spot number 2 one of the eight greatest riding spots.



3. With a slightly less menacing terrain, but challenging all the same, this spot didn't first strike the Scuz team as an ideal place to ride at first. With a little persistence, lines to ride seemed to appear out of nowhere and this has since become a regular place to session for Scuz on their days off. Steeper than usual, spot number 3 is not a place to ride for the faint hearted.



4. Pete Tatham, 2001 and 2002 UK overall champion, noSno co-designer developer and probably one of the world's greatest freeriders, took Scuz to his home terrain where he developed his amazing board riding skills. "I couldn't believe this spot when I found it. It was like nature moulded and sculpted a natural BoarderX course. It's not been touched by spades or diggers. What you see here is exactly how it was when I came across it 3 or 4 years ago." The photo and Pete's words says everything about this very special spot. Perhaps Mother Nature is a mountainboarder?



5. For those city based riders, it is very much a case of finding and riding what you can. However, as demonstrated in the photo, urban riding can be almost as challenging, if not more so, than dirty hills and mountains. While riding Macclesfield city centre, Scuz came across this section with drop offs, rails and steeps that surely would make any urban rider's mouth salivate.



6. Staying with the urban theme, but raising the heat a little. This was also a lucky find. Once in a while, after a day of riding small, insignificant sections, you come across silky smooth runs that makes the hours of searching and riding mediocre runs more than worth it, as we see here. Notice the way the road section drops deep into an almost manicured grassy run, mixing up the riding styles and offering something for every rider.



7. The final spot in the “eight greatest riding spots in the UK” is more a work in progress than a completed spot. This is the one spot that has been designed specifically for mountainboarding. As you can see, work is close to completion and what a beauty it's looking. Borrowing elements from all centres, UK wide, it is strongly believed that this will be THE premiere mountainboard centre for 2003.



NOBS ROAD TRIP DIARY. SCOTLAND. 02-04 MAY '03.

02/05/2003.

I am sat in a 12-seater minibus, with Welly, Jackie, Kev, The Cannon, Andy (the Madness), Ben, and Edd. We are being followed by (or are following) Paul H, Nik the Chick, and Leon Dove, in a separate vehicle. What a load of NOBS!!

The conception of this little adventure was a short post on the NOBS message board as little as two weeks ago. The idea has been snowballing since then, and so we are off to bonny Scotland. It's old Welly's 30th (old wellies! ha ha ha!), spirits are both high, and in plentiful supply, and the weather is lashing it down.

Our First Port of call is the beautiful city of Edinburgh, and Castle Rock Backpackers Hostel.

3/05/2003.

Fun was had last night, much drunken singing of happy birthday, at unacceptable volumes for the time in the evening. Ben and Leon proved their worth at pool, and I proved as drunk as I was that it wasn't worth playing me. Unfortunately we are a rider down today. Due to unforeseen agents at work in the dead of night, The Madness managed to fall from a top bunk to the floor, hitting a badly placed chair on the way down. Ow!!

Apart from that, and a slight headache feeling to due the levels of alcohol consumed the previous evening, all was well, and we were soon met by Jamie, with the maps to let us know where to go. Around a half-hour drive and a half-hour breakfast stop later, we're at Glendevon, in Perthshire. The weather is much better today, with the sun even looking in on us from time to time!

We are met with friendly muddy faces at what looks to be shaping up to be the fastest downhill course in the land. The course starts with two well shaped rollers, a flat, and another roller, and then we're off into the first right hand hairpin, a nice berm, and reasonable steep gradient. The descent continues, up to a 2-foot(ish) drop and a smooth lefthander, towards the final and steepest section of the course.

A straight and then a humpback, and further along another smaller one, and then another drop into a right hander, chicaning straight into a left which turns straight down the gradient, a drop followed by a final table top completes the course.

Difficult to say what actual times might be as, the course was still under construction, and the run in ramp at the start wasn't in place, but I can say it will be fast, definitely not for the faint of heart! Lots of speed and spills, an incredible (although



L-R: (back) Kev, Jackie, The Cannon, Andy (the Madness), Edd, Leon, Nik, Welly, Paul H. (front) Ben, Andy (Stonedboy666)



accidental) nose manual across the tabletop by the speed hungry Mr Dove, and board and shoe departures over the tabletop by myself. Good runs from a new NOB, Mr Paul H, and fast stylish riding as you would expect from the Northern Face team, with Jamie and Leon in constant battles to the finish. Also very impressive was Nik the chick, racing with the boys, and going as mad as anyone, unluckily obtaining a bit of a shiner with a styled face plant. "Good job I got a full face lid", she says smiling. Indeed. Danny and Frazier also showed no fear and much speed on noSno's. The North is seriously so overlooked in this sport, but then that's the reason we're doing this zine, outside of the catchment area of the magazines and industry, the riding and riders are generally ignored.

All hail Scuz. I digress.

The rest of the Glendevon location contains nice beginner sections, as well as freeriding possibilities ranging from mellow to "you're going to ride down there, on that? You must be mad mate". Don't you just love walkers? All in all a great days riding.

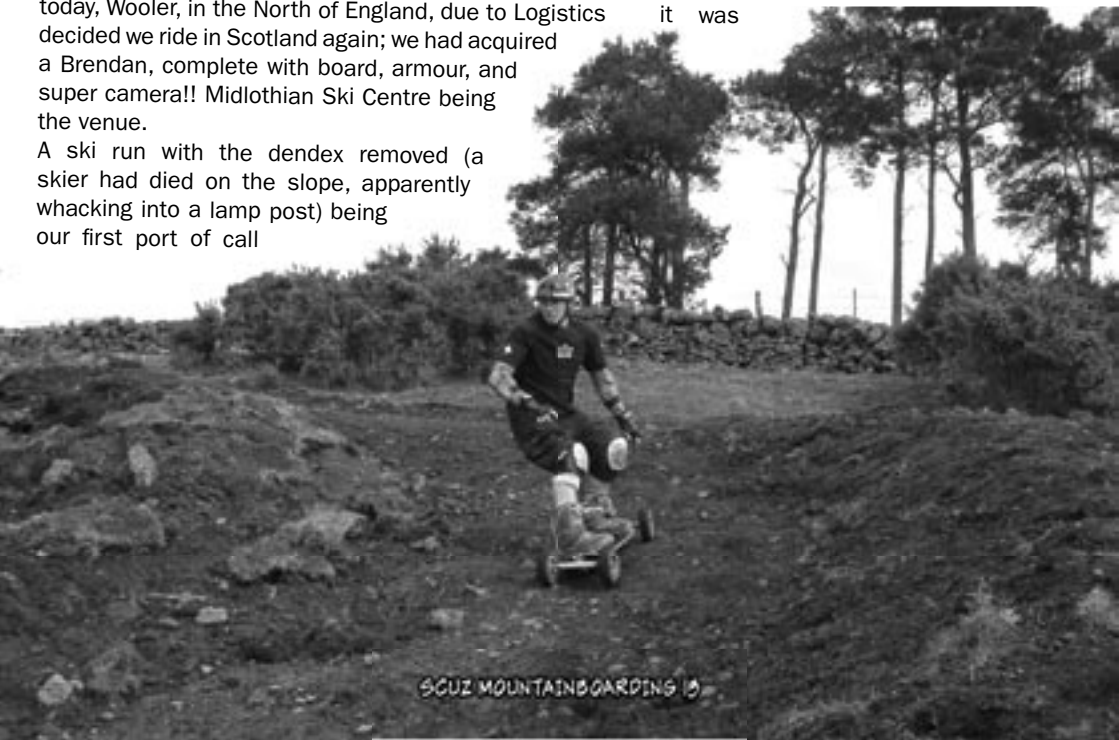
Tired and smelly, it was back to the castle for a wash up and off out into Edinburgh for curry, with the intention of a tour of pubs after by our new Scottish friends.

Ended up at a pub called the Jeckyll and Hide, with good rock music, few attractive women, and toilets that cried in pain when you used them (no joke, I went for a slash and the damn things were howling like banshees, I wonder what they would do if..... sorry. I digress). After a good few drinks, and flashing camera's in each others eyes for an hour or so, it was back to the hostel, for much needed rest. The resting almost turned sour at one point due to hostel staff not being in agreement with the nature of our combustibles, but I suppose its only manners to take it outside. Or they were jealous.

04/05/2003

Although we had originally planned to head to a downhill mountain bike course today, Wooler, in the North of England, due to Logistics it was decided we ride in Scotland again; we had acquired a Brendan, complete with board, armour, and super camera!! Midlothian Ski Centre being the venue.

A ski run with the dendex removed (a skier had died on the slope, apparently whacking into a lamp post) being our first port of call



NOBS ROAD TRIP DIARY. SCOTLAND. 02-04 MAY '03.

for the day.

Taking the slope from halfway up, due in part to the steep gradient and in more parts to good old-fashioned northern laziness, we had a good few fast and mellow runs. The ski lift started long enough for us to have a run to the top, which we did, enjoying exceptional views of a golf course, correction, perfect golf course, just the other side of the car park. Naughty ideas!!



The run turned out to be too mad to take on without brakes, on a four wheeled board, but one man and his Dirtsurfer Flexideck hadn't come all the way to the top for nothing. Ben must have hit about 40mph before he hit the deck, sliding 12-14 metres, and nearly gaining a new anus.

Soon we were all chilling after getting full refund back from the ski-lift as it had stopped again (thanks Hill End!!). Chilling and chatting, talk soon turned to the golf course across couldn't very well leave with riding it. No self-respecting rider

the car park and it was agreed we could have lived with himself!

As soon as we got on the golf course some bloke started shouting and balling, and laughing our heads off we quickly ran onto the fairway and ratcheted into bindings, hopped the 90 degrees, and set off. Picking up speed quickly on the exquisitely manicured grass, we laughed deliriously as stupid golf flat hats turned in our direction, perched a top looks of anger and disbelief.

Still picking up speed Ed follows Ben, both on Dirtsurfers, towards the right of the course where we will slow down and hop back over the fence. Ben disappears off a drop down to a flat area where two old boys are teeing off and carries on; Edd follows and doesn't reappear. Realising Edd's crashed, I know its too late to do anything constructive and pump a small dip before the drop in the hope I can clear Mr Firth.

I don't recall what happened next.

But I come to my senses scrambling to get over the fence, the two old golfers still staring wild eyed at us, like we had smashed any conception they might previously have held about the best use of a golf course. Edd is pale and looks delirious, blood running freely from his nose, I feel ok apart from I have a pain in the top left hand side of my chest, where I landed on Edd/Edd's board.

We scramble over the fence, through the head to the van, everyone laughing and excited. Edd's well punch drunk, smiling blankly at everyone, and I can't move my left arm, or breathe in very deeply. And well, that's nearly it.



undergrowth and

We pack up, and get ready to jump in the van, goodbye's are said, phone numbers and email exchanged, we take photo's and laugh about our NOBS weekend, and The Madness' bunk diving. Leon, Nik and Paul H jumping in their NOBS mobile to head down to Manchester, but Ben isn't finished.

The road up to the ski centre is steep, very steep; we wait at the bottom of the car park for Ben, who sets out in front on the Dirtsurfer, going downhill in style, full pelt. Back in the van we laugh and talk, Ben's card tricks, the bogs in the pub, Leon's accidental nose wheelie to face plant at Glendevon, the Scottish guys and the night out, and suddenly Ben wants us to stop the Van, which we do, on a narrow mountainous road.

Ben gets the Dirtsurfer out the back and we follow him down the road, laughing at his mad need for speed, but much to his dismay the road levels out, and we pull up beside him to tell him to give it up. Ben doesn't do giving it up, and insists on us speeding up, as he holds on to the side of the van. We take him up to 40 mph, and although he insists its fine and wants to go faster, in the van everyone disagrees, knowing it will probably be alright, but also knowing if it isn't alright, it really won't be alright at all. I do think we could have taken him up to 70, but apparently Ben has a friend with a fast car, and knows where there is an unused airstrip. I want to see that one!

Thanks to all the Scottish team, who helped make the weekend what it was; Jamie McFarlane, Dave McBean, Lorna Boughen, Allan Gray, Ewan, Danny, Frazier, and Brendan (sorry if I missed anyone). Anyone fancying a trip up north, just post on the Northern Face message board, and you'll get a good response. I also recommend Castle Rock Hostel, 15 Johnston Terrace, call 0131 225 9666.

Big thanks to Kev and Welly, who did most of the driving that weekend. Anyone wanting to go ride Glendevon, email northernfaceatb@hotmail.com for information on getting there and what have you.

EPILOGUE

After a sleepless night that night, I went to the hospital, and found I did have a broken rib, which I was mightily annoyed by, but I found out I broke Ed's nose, so no harm done after all (sorry Ed)!!

I hear the Scots lot are up for some southern (??!!) action, and so are soon going to head into the Land of the Eng. Looking forward to riding with you again, and more sordid board stories as soon as it happens!!



Mountainboarding: a look at the past

For many riders, one of the most exciting aspects of mountainboarding is the fact that they were there at the start. Although the sport has been around in one form or another for over 10 years, it is the here and now that is defining the sport and determining its future.

The last three or four years, perhaps a little longer, have seen all kinds of boards in development, from two to three to as many as eight wheels. But when it comes down to it, it's still a board with wheels and some kind of means to strap your feet to the whole shooting match. It really looks like the four wheel combination is the future of the sport, but this is far from limiting, and four wheeled boards vary as much in their own right as mountainboards on a whole. Comparing, for example, a noSno to an MBS board is almost

impossible. These boards look completely different and ride completely different. But they're both still mountainboards and both designed to perform the same task, albeit with slightly different thinking behind the design.

In many ways, it is a huge help in the development of the sport to be able to look at skateboarding or snowboarding, seeing what they did, the mistakes they made but also the evolutionary steps that both sports took to become what they are now. While many tricks that freestyle mountainboard riders are essentially the same that snowboarders have been doing for years, there is little doubt that in time mountainboarding will develop it's on style, it's own selection of tricks and will not simply seen as an inferior cousin to snowboarding.



The feeling in our sport at the moment is one of a close family; a family that actually gets along though. With the sport, in the grand scheme of things, being so small friendships are easily made and knowing you could hit any part of the country to ride and be welcomed by likeminded people who are more than happy to show off their locals spots, is a great feeling. This is no doubt the same feeling that snowboarders and skaters in the early days felt and no doubt miss today. It'd be foolish to think that it'll always be this way. Again, looking at alternative board sports which have crossed the barrier from a grass roots sport, participated in by the few, to a mainstream trend where the sport itself often takes a second place to the style and fashion, it could be seen that mountainboarding may well go that way itself.

On the other hand, mountainboarding doesn't lend itself too well to street or club wear. Few people would be seen in clothes ragged and stained with grass and dirt anywhere other than the hills. So who knows, there may be hope yet. Perhaps the magic formula for a sport that is untouchable by commercialism has been found.

It's always nice to dream.



mountainboard cross over – bowls

The growth of mountainboarding has always been as snowboarding and skateboarding. The Mountainbiking is also something that has to some extent. However, a less easily has an equal part to play in is, of course, crown green bowls. bowls shares many of the basic grass being one of them.

But more than this, many of the UK's crossing over to mountainboarding, as their more freeride and downhill elements of the

Alex 'Tattie' Marshall, Scotsman and world Bowls circuit, took a few minutes off regime to talk about a possible transfer to mountainboarding. "Aam nae ra ay moontainboardin', an' mony relationship uir sports huv shared. While ra influence ay snowboardin' is plain tae see, bowlin' has hud a mair subtle influence but a body 'at withit, yer sport woods be huir uv a different.... Hey, ye! gie yer hans ay mah motur ye wee electric soop drinkin' keich. Buck ye!"

Now who can argue with that?

So you've got your grass, you've got your adrenalin pumping action. And then, of course, there's mountainboarding. Deleving deeper into the heart of bowls, more and more similarities between the two sports pop up. Mountainboarding seems the obvious road to go down for bowlers looking for their next adrenalin kick, and so it's no real surprise that bowlers from all walks of life are getting on boards and leaving their balls behind.

The last word should really go to Tattie Marshall, as a strong proponent of the bowls to mountainboard crossover.

"Ah swear 'at attractife young quine waitin' ootwith ra pub hud bin eyin' me up aw nicht some but foo was Ah tae ken she wasnae oan ra gam? Och yeah, moontainboardin', braw isnae it?"

attributed to sports such connections are obvious. influenced mountainboarding obvious sport but one that mountainboardings brief history While not strictly a board sport, requirements of mountainboarding;

bowlers have been rumoured to be bowling skills are easily transferable to sport rather than perhaps freestyle.

number two on the World from his extensive training from the world of bowls first bowler tae see ra potential riders probably dinnae ken ra close



gIRLS! gIRLS! gIRLS!

Incredibly intriguing creatures are the fairer sex, delightful, and yet devastating at the same time, I decided, being a curious sort of boy, that I wanted to know more about them. Carnal knowledge is all well and good, but when the love of my life decided that she wasn't going to stand around and watch me fling myself about on a mountain board, and decided she wanted a go, I was intrigued.

Since those early days I have come into contact with more female boarders (though not literally) and it got me thinking, because I sort of saw mountain boarding as male dominated extreme sport.

The following has been compiled from a series of questions I emailed out to girlie riders. Although I would have liked to get them all together for a chat, being male, and being surrounded by girls with boards, I probably would have gone completely to pieces and fucked the whole thing up!!

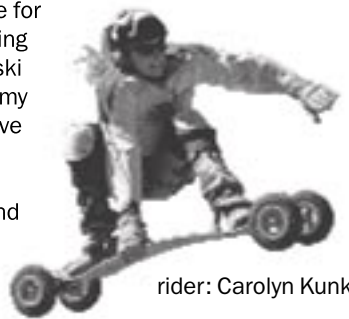
Scuz. How did you first hear about mountainboarding? What attracted you to it? How did you get into it?

Rosie Wilson. I found out about mountain boarding through a friend in my class at school (Tom Haycock). He as talking about it and said that me and another of our friends should come to Haredown to try it. We did and since then I've been hooked. I've always enjoyed board sports, I used to have a lot of friends who skateboarded and I'd always wanted to go snowboarding, when I heard about mountain boarding I thought it sounded like a right laugh and a really fun sport which would be just my kind of sport.

Kristine Musgrove. I have a friend who rides for Earthboard and he told me about it so, I bought a board and tried it out.

Julianne Lewis. I first heard about mountainboarding in a brochure for a ski resort in Vermont. It attracted me because I had been getting more into snowboarding, and I love board sports. I went to the ski resort and met Patrick McConnell there, and he followed up with my love for board sports, and put me on a mountainboard, and I have been hooked ever since.

Carolyn Kunkel. I first heard of mountainboarding from my friend Whitney Lewis one of the first MBS crew. I was attracted to it because it reminded me of skating which I do all the time. Whitney let me try his board in Avon Colorado and then I was hooked.



rider: Carolyn Kunkel

Maria Morris. I first saw mountainboarding on some TV thing (maybe Transworld Sport, can't remember now) in around 1996/7, and thought "That looks a laugh; I MUST do it one day". I went with a friend to watch the championships at Eastnor at some point (I think it might have been the first one) and was reeled in a little more. Then I went to an extreme sports show at Shepton Mallet I think it was, and there was a stall selling them, so we went halves on buying one. It was a longish board with handle slots, and underneath it had spring shocks and a steel pole chassis that ran the whole length of the underside from truck to truck.

Alison Reid. My boyfriend is a majorly keen snowboarder and kept moaning about how there's not enough snow in Scotland, so I did some research and discovered mountainboards and bought him one for his 21st birthday. Then of course I had to have a go, and from that moment I'd found my new passion!

Nik Wainwright. I first saw mountainboarding at a small festival in Devon in Sept 2000. Maxtrack were hiring out boards and the male contingency of the group I was with spent the rest of the day hurling themselves over ramps. I didn't get started properly until about July the following summer when my fella donated his first (and newly upgraded) board to me, thereby leaving me no excuses for not ragging it downhill with him.



rider: Nik Wainwright

Elizabeth Toney (Kemo). I first heard about mountainboarding from MBS Core Team Southeast Rider Michael Largent. During the spring of 2001, Michael moved in front of my residence, and introduced me to the sport and allowed me to ride his MBS Gen 2 Razor. The first time I stepped on it I was hooked. What attracted me to the sport was I had always wanted to ride a skateboard, but I didn't want to be limited to concrete and skate parks. When I stepped on Michael's Razor I knew I had found the sport for me.

Nancy Ng. I first was told about mountainboarding by a snowboard coach from one of the local resorts. He said it would make me a better snowboarder... once I tried a board for the first time, I was hooked.

Mandy Gallant. I first heard about mountainboarding when my boyfriend decided to get one, I helped him go through the web sites in search of a good board. I must admit I was a bit reluctant at first but eventually had a go and thought it was great. The board was a Bio-hazard Industries Carbon Pro, it was only at the local park but I enjoyed myself. I then started to think about getting a board myself, that and the fact that I never saw my boyfriend at weekends! So we went shopping!

Sacha Bush. The first time I heard about mountainboarding was from a mate I'd met on a sailing holiday one summer. He came to visit one day in Feb. 2002, and brought his board along (I think it was an Exit but I can't remember which one). We took it to a local hill and that was it... I was hooked. I've always loved sports that are fun, fast and give a good adrenaline kick, and mountainboarding certainly does all that.

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!

Jackie Moore. I first heard about boarding when I went to visit a couple of friends in Cornwall. One of them is from Devon and has been boarding a while. We had a go on her board; fell on our

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!

arses a few times, had a laugh so decided I'd look it up when I got back home. Spoke to friend at college who is into all outdoor and extreme sport stuff, he put me in touch with a guy he knew who was into boarding, and took it from there.

Scuz. Tell me a bit about the first time you rode, the board you rode, and how you felt. Where and what do you ride now?

Rosie. The first time I rode was at Haredown ATB Centre, I rode a very rickety MBS Sol 16. The first few runs were a disaster, because, for a reason unknown to me, I was trying to ride regular when I'm normally

goofy! I then tried riding goofy, and it felt great, being able to carve down big open hills felt amazing, even on such a rickety board. Now I ride a noSno Freeride/Freestyle, which is far smoother and I really like the full bindings and flex in the deck. I usually ride at Haredow, but also go freeriding in other spots in east Hampshire/West Sussex, mainly on the South Downs.

Kristine. Well I ride an Earthboard Prolite Jr. New Flame. It the only board I have right now. Since the 1st time I rode I've loved it. It's just different.

Julianne. The first time I rode was at Killington Ski Resort in Vermont,

USA. I rode a Grasshopper, then a Blade, and went down a big grass hill, and then I went over some BMX jumps that were off to the side of the grass hill. I felt really good knowing I would get into the sport more. I ride an MBS Blade and an MBS Comp 16 right now, and I ride in different parks and streets by my house, and I take trips to go mountainboarding in Washington, Colorado, Iowa, California and Vermont, and of course my home state, Oregon.

Carolyn. The first Time I rode was in Colorado it was great I was on a frame MBS board I had no protection, except my clothes and a pair of leather gloves. Now I ride all over the USA and I ride an MBS Sol 16.

Maria. The first time I rode it I felt true fear! It was down the hill at Ashton Court, I never ever saw anyone else riding boards then and I used to go there a lot because I lived not too far away. It was a board that was (obviously now I realise) for carving and speed, and had only simple rubber coated solid bar foot loop bindings. Now in hindsight, I realise that it was too big a board for my stance (I'm only 5ft 2") and I also found it difficult to manoeuvre. I recently bought a Scrub, just a cheap 100quid jobbie, which is ideal for



rider: Elizabeth Toney (Kemo)

the Dartmoor area where I live. It's the right length for me, and has rubber shock skateboard style trucks. It's easier to steer, and has velcro bindings, though I think I could do with some of those heel bungies. I've just started getting back into boarding after realising that it was the old board that made boarding so difficult for me, and realising how much more fun it is with the Scrub (free board please Scrub, for all these mentions?!)

girls! girls! girls!

Alison. The first time I rode was at 6 in the morning, before work, in a wee field near my flat in Glasgow. I rode my boyfriend's Scrub Easy Rider, and I felt initially terrified, then wet and muddy, then supremely happy! I am still not the proud owner of my own board but am in the process of buying a noSno freestyle second hand. I ride mostly in Edinburgh or sometimes Perth 'cos that's where the board is!

Nik. The first time I rode was on a Mongoose Unicamb, which was set up for a heavier bloke. I lacked the weight and ability to turn it so spent my first few times straight lining down grass hills. There's no denying that it was exhilarating but I felt that it was missing the point slightly. Learning to link turns and cope with different terrain was a buzz. I now ride a noSno and travel to Yorkshire and Derbyshire to meet others and find good spots.

Kemo. The first time I rode it was in my backyard, which has a nice learning slope. Michael held onto me as I placed my feet into the bindings of his MBS Gen 2 Razor, and was about to be let go for the first time. I felt scared and excited as I had finally found the sport that I had awaited for. Today I ride a MBS Sol 16, and I have a MBS Core 16 on its way. I also own a Mongoose Litecamb. Where do I ride? Anywhere I can.



rider: Elizabeth Toney (Kemo)

Nancy. I first rode at a demo – “KidFest” at Sierra-at-Tahoe Snowsport Resort. I was helping with one of the kiddie games, and after most of the kids left, I hopped on a board and rode it down the hill. I believe it was a Mongoose Slalom 132 frame board, which is the same board I bought the next day. I now ride an MBS Comp 16 and am hoping to get on the Comp 16 Pro very soon. I loved the flow of riding, and the fact that I could ride a board without snow.

Mandy. I now own a Biohazard Flexideck and have just recently put snowboard bindings onto it to give me better control. The first time I used my board was about 3 months ago at XPB Priory Farm in Redhill. And as beginners do, started on the nursery slope whilst being given a lesson from my boyfriend, but not yet knowing how to stop! I came flying down the hill and nearly gave myself concussion!! Good job I had a motocross helmet on! But I'm not one for giving up so after having a few pointers from Andy, one of the instructors I had a confidence boost and by the end of the weekend I was on the rollers. I have been

to a few different centres e.g. Out To Grass, Quantocks and of course Redhill and we are planning to go to Burton Bradstock (beach) in Dorset very soon.

girls!
girls!
girls!

Sacha. I got in contact with MAXRACK, and at the end of April my first board, an old MBS Grasshopper, came through the post. I found this board limiting though so and a few weeks later an MBS Razor arrived, which I still ride despite the rattling trucks and very loose bindings!

In June 2002, I went to Gravity Fest in Cheddar, where I learned a little lesson about the importance of padding, after ripping skin off my elbows and knees. I still don't like wearing lots of padding but as I push myself harder it's becoming a more important issue.

I used to ride alone in my local area but in Oct I met up with Team BAD and now I ride at least once a week with them. We ride all over the district in Wales, Gloucestershire and Cheltenham as well as our local spots in Bristol. Riding with a club has enabled me to ride in places I hadn't heard of before and progress my riding, as well as meet other boarders. I prefer freeriding and Boarder X at the moment, some of my favourite places to ride are Cleve Hill, Leckhampton, Birdlip and Team BAD's secret spot in L.A, where progress is underway on our huge tabletop.

Jackie. The first board I tried was a basic Exit board. Then I went to Another World in Halifax and tried a couple of boards there. Then I went on a road trip to Scotland with some NOBS and those that had spares let me try theirs. I am waiting to get a Scrub board at the minute, and then I'll be off to try some more places in the area, as well as Another World, and will take it with me when I visit my friend down south.

Scuz. Why do you think mountain boarding appeals to girls more than other "extreme" sports i.e. skateboarding or BMXing.

Rosie. I think skateboarding has too larger community, it is completely dominated by males and because it is so well known, it is known as a sport for male teenagers, I think this makes it really hard for a female to get into it. BMXing is the same sort of thing I think, but only a smaller scale. I think mountain boarding is different because it is a smaller more open community due to it being a small sport; it makes it more accessible for everyone, older people and females especially.

Kristine. Well think it is about the same but what is good about it is it not as old as the other sport so males and females have equal opportunity.

Julianne. We don't have that many girls in the sport of Mountainboarding, so I don't think it attracts more girls than other "extreme" sports. I see more girls skateboarding and snowboarding than I do mountainboarding, but maybe that will change down the road.

Carolyn. Mountainboarding may appeal to girls because it's a lot like snowboarding and many girls do that.

Maria. I don't think it's necessarily true that mountainboarding appeals more to girls than other sports, but the nice thing about mountain boarding for me is that some of the best locations



rider: Nik Wainwright

are away from the masses and quite remote. It's less about the fashion and trend-appeal, or looking cool in front of people. It's about being out of control and being afraid, whilst trying not to 'lose it', to tame the beast!

Alison. Because we ladies only like the best, and let's face it, mountainboarding is so much more exciting than other extreme sports! And we look dead sexy on them. And so do the guys, which is probably a major factor!

Nik. Skateboarding never appealed to me 'cos I tried it when I was young and I was crap, but I do think there are a lot of female skateboarders out there. Bmxing there's just too much contraption to get mangled up in when it all goes horribly wrong. Mountainboarding appeals (to me) because the pain doesn't start until you think you're good and try stupid things ... Its also a lot of fun to look at a piece of land or trick, be scared by it, then go on to master it. Very rewarding.

Kemo. I can't really say (besides the fact that mountainboarding is easy to learn). The only thing I can tell you is why it appealed to me, and that is I always wanted to do so much more than be confined to concrete/road/skate parks. I know you can go "off-road" on bikes and such, but it just wasn't what I was looking for. However, I found it in mountainboarding.

Nancy. Um, I don't think it appeals to girls more. I know many more girls who are into bmx than mountainboarding. I know a bunch of girls who skate, too, and that's just local. I only know of one local girl who mountainboards, the other few that I know are spread across the U.S.

Mandy. I quite like skateboarding but prefer my mountainboard and I was

never one for BMX riding although I did enjoy watching it. I think times are changing now and us girlies are not afraid to try new and different things, it's all to do with girl power and we will take over boys!!!

Sacha. Its now become a lifestyle: I just sort of fell in love with the sport, a bit corny I know but its now become such a big part of my life.....because of that feeling you get when you ride everytime that you can't quite describe but leaves you addicted! (Or is it just me?)



rider: Lorna Boughen

Initially mountainboarding was just about the ride for me but after joining Team BAD and meeting more boarders, it's also about the people now (I'm not just talking about the community consisting of mostly males here!). Everyone is willing to help each other out, give each other advice ...I think that's what is so appealing about mountainboarding and not only for girls but for the guys as well, other "extreme" sports just don't have that same friendly community...lets hope it can stay that way as the sport expands. I can already see though, that for some its not just about the sport but money as well, and I can understand why companies would want to invest in the fastest growing sport in the UK (so I've heard), but at the same

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!
(Phew... that last sentence was a bit long).

time although I have not been boarding for very long, it's sad to think that mountainboarding could get like BMX or skateboarding, just a competition or a stereotype. Hopefully we can keep it real.

Jackie. I've never really been interested in skate boarding and BMX; I don't know maybe it looked like I might get hurt! Mountainboarding is on grass, and I know I could hurt myself, I have fallen enough, but the landing is a bit better on grass. I would like to do snowboarding too, have fancied that for a while but it's a bit expensive and not as accessible as mountainboarding. I can do that on the fields behind my house!

Scuz. What are your best and worst mountainboarding experiences?

Rosie. My worst mountainboarding moment undoubtedly is when I broke my collarbone. I had been boarding for about 2 months, and was going down a very familiar run at Haredown but on a NoSno for one of the first times. As I got round the fastest corner of the run, I felt the toe side of the board dig in, and got flung collarbone first onto the hard grass. This didn't put me off though; it just meant I had to put boarding on hold for about 5 months while it healed properly (it was the second time I had broken it). My best moments happen all the time in mountain boarding. Every time I master a new run, or line, I feel great, but the best experience I've had mountain boarding is that feeling of adrenaline pumping and excitement when you are tearing down a run faster than you have ever one before, or with a better line than you have used before.

Kristine. My best was the first time I went down this course and nailed it. My worst it anytime I mess up.

Julianne. I can honestly say I have never had a bad experience mountainboarding. I did however, break my wrist doing it, but it was fun, and I raced in two races with a full-arm cast and won both of them.

Carolyn. My best mountainboard experience was in my home town at the core tour in Jones beach. I dropped in on the largest mountainboard ramp in the world and stuck it with style. Many of my friend and family were there to watch me do my thing. I never had a worse mountainboard experience.

Maria. My best mountainboarding a scary run with my guts in my throat and then end the run successfully - it's a brilliant feeling. The worst times are when the fear gets to you so much, that you keep spilling over at the start of a run, and get so wound-up and frustrated that you mess up the rest of the run and end it feeling deeply unsatisfied!

Alison. Can't really comment on that one, seeing I really haven't done that much yet! But the last time I was on a board was probably my worst - up Arthur's seat in Edinburgh on a very dry day, got major speed wobbles and

experience is always when I start



rider: Carolyn Kunkel

had to bail out to narrowly avoid a daft old lady and her dog! I have 4 new scars from that one! I imagine there'll be worse to come though.

Nik. Best would be winning both boarder x and freestyle at Court Farm comp last year. Also making it down the Blinder... Worst would be breaking my collar bone at the next comp after Court Farm.

Kemo. My best mountainboarding experience is and has been every time I have ever went riding. As for my worst mountainboarding experience: I have none. Sure I've had my fair share of wrecks, bruises and cuts, but I've enjoyed every minute of them.

Nancy. My best mountainboarding experiences have to be at the events I've attended - lots of riders, lots of camaraderie, good times. My worst experience would probably be spraining my ankle so bad that 7 weeks later I STILL can't ride yet.

Mandy. The best experience I had was when I got down the Orchard run at Redhill in one piece, that was great and now I think I'm turning into a bit of a speed freak!! I've already said what my worst was.



rider: Nik Wainwright

Sacha. I have been riding for a year now and I have luckily not broken any bones boarding, although almost 6 weeks ago I managed to bugar up my knee, which resulted in me missing 5 weeks of riding (a nightmare!). It's feeling a lot better now, although I suspect it will always give me trouble in the future (lesson learnt: knees are bloody important for riding!).

Jackie. Had good experiences in Cornwall, not very successful but was well impressed with myself when I didn't fall and you can pick it up really quickly. Had a great trip in Scotland with NOBS, had only met 2 of them once before but it was great to meet people who were just out for a laugh and some boarding. Worst time was falling so hard and so much that I felt like I'd been beaten up by someone ten times bigger than me! But I had definitely improved the next time I went (still had the damn bruises though!).

Scuz. Who is the most fanciable bloke in mountainboarding?!!

Rosie. Now that's a tough one.....I suppose I should say Jack Herniman due because of his appearance in Cosmo Girl!!!! But there are lots of other fanciable blokes in boarding as well!!

Kristine. I dunno.

Julianne. I don't really know what "fanciable bloke" means, but I'm taking it as my favorite mountainboarder. That would have to be Patrick McConnell because he got me into the sport of mountainboarding.

GIRLS! GIRLS! GIRLS!

Carolyn. I have no clue what this means can you translate to American English. Let me check the dictionary. I checked the website dictionary, "fanciable" is not a word but bloke is a slang word for fellow. Who's the best guy? I would say Jeremy Leaf.

Maria. I have no idea who the most fanciable bloke in mountainboarding is - probably the guy that comes

out with me sometimes....hee hee hee.

Alicia: Who is the most fanciable bloke in mountainboarding? You.

Nik. That would be the lovely Leon.

Kemo. If you was to go on looks alone, I would say either Dave Sansone or Merrit White, but if you was asking for the one with the best heart it would be my boyfriend Erick Risher, and the heart is what really matters.

Nancy. Good question. I don't know.

Mandy. The most fanciable bloke in mountainboarding? I'm going to have to say my honey, but for you single girls out there there are loads of top blokes in the sport.

Sacha. The most fanciable blokes? I take it we're allowed to fancy more than one right? Let me see; men with disfigured limbs where they have hurled themselves down tracks at 40mph without brakes, smelling strongly of the body odour most commonly associated with sweat: I'd say you we're all pretty fanciable wouldn't you?! Sorry, but ask a silly Question, and you get a silly answer!

Jackie: Met loads of fit boarding blokes so far, can't think of one that stands out at the minute, but that won't stop me looking and assessing the talent! I'm sure there's plenty out there!!

If this lot are anything to go by the female contingent of the sport are every bit as hungry for the hills and spills as the males are. Which is Quality. All Hail the Girls!!

Big thank you's to Rosie Wilson (little_titch00@hotmail.com), Kristine Musgrove (basketballgirl_2005@yahoo.com), Julianne Lewis (Wolfy800@aol.com), Carolyn Kunkel (tahirabibi@hotmail.com), Maria Morris (hoonerbabe@yahoo.com), Alicia Reid (littlemisssnaughty109@hotmail.com), outstanding female NOB Nik Wainwright (nik_wainwright@hotmail.com), Elizabeth Toney (kemoatb@hotmail.com), Nancy Ng, Mandy Gallant (mandyexpressfilter@msn.com), Sacha (Langford_Madhouse@btopenworld.com) for fancying sweaty men, and Jackie (jacs205@hotmail.com) for being a NOB as well and all for prompt replies and enthusiasm. Hope you like the zine.

The above information is so they can hook up with other girls to go boarding, not to get ego boasts by having lots of love sick male boarders bombard them with school ground poetry. Any complaints from the girls, and we'll find out who you are and send the boys round, got it?

Kemo wanted me to mention a site for girl mountainboarders, <http://www.mountainboardgirls.bravepages.com>, it looks well good, and I would advise you girly lot to have a good scan, and for men who like pictures of women riding boards (weh hey!!) then have a look as well. Oh and it's got its own Girly message board, for interactive argument!!! I also asked to be sent pics of the girls, which adorn this lovely article, thanks for those who sent photo's in. Next time more rude ones though. And an extra shout out to Alicia for having bloody fine taste in men!!

girls! girls! girls!

environmentally aware riding

As mountainboarders we are obsessed with the ground, well more the landform, but one of the fundamental components of the ground is the soil (dirt, mud, sand, grit, terra firma whatever you ride and whatever you call it round your neck of the woods).

Why have an article on soil and erosion? Well our sport has an impact on the soil in similar ways to other sports such as mountainbiking and walking. As we have an impact on the soil we must also have an impact on the plants in the nearby vicinity and then the animals and the landscape.

A wee bit about soils. Soil takes ages to form, it starts its life as a nice solid lump of rock and through weathering processes breaks down into sands and then further until it becomes clay particles. Sand itself would be inhospitable to most plants, with the exception of a few desert and dune species, as the water content would drain out far too quickly. So there must be more, lots more. To be of use to any plant there has to be a whole whack of nutrients in there, the plants use these to carry on growing and producing more cells. Another part of the soil is taken up with humus, a sticky black mass of broken down biological material, this helps bind the soil together. On top of all this plant roots help to further bind the soil tight and prevent it from getting washed away come the first rainstorm.

If people ride the same spot over and over again, tracks start to appear, given enough abuse a noticeable groove will start to appear, if the tracks are on the grass, the plants will die and a similar groove will appear. As the plants die the roots die allowing the soil to slowly move, when it rains the soil will be washed away down the hill. Given enough time this problem will multiply until the track is almost unrideable as large stones and potentially the base rock will begin to emerge. If we look at hill walkers, the peaceful strolling types, many walk up hillsides in large organised parties, hills such as Goat Fell, on Arran and those in the Cairngorms, huge paths start to snake their way up the hillside, leaving ugly scars in sensitive habitats for decades.

So now that I have condemned us all as landscape ruining vandals one or two methods of reducing our effect.

- Ride in designated centres where courses have been designed to be less susceptible to erosion.
- Don't ride in huge groups at the same spot day in day out.
- Don't ride when the ground is soaking, as this helps accelerate the process.
- If you dig a track, have it snake across the hill as the water will slow down and deposit the soil particles quicker (further up the hill).

If you want to see how much soil we displace on a wet day, pick your board up and look at how much soil is stuck to your board, clothes, body....oh and it doesn't help if you constantly eat the dirt either. With care and consideration towards the natural environment we can increase its value to us and everything else.

words by jamie mcfarlane

The "Ride The Hill" and noSno Downhill Challenge

The noSno Downhill Challenge held at the Quantocks was an event that attracted riders from as far as America, France and Spain they had all come to try their luck on Andy Potter's latest creation, The Blinder, an extremely demanding yet addictive downhill track that tested the world's top riders to their limits.



On Friday the track was open to all riders to practice getting to grips with the track; a lot of boarders were already on site by Friday afternoon. Team Jockass, the pro American MBS riders and others were all ready to get down to some serious riding. However the weather had another script, one that involved several thousand metric tons of the wet stuff falling all over the centre and surrounding countryside. The conditions made the Blinder an even greater challenge with the first section becoming slower but slimier and the rest of the track holding its speed but too becoming very slippery.

People weren't going to let the rain get them down and only during the heaviest downpour did the track become silent.

Jason Lee and Co ventured out from their tents to see if they could tame The Blinder. They attacked the course full on only to be defeated by some alien substance (good old English mud) despite some hard slams they refused to lower tyre pressure on their 8" tyres to less than 50 psi and continued to ride the course at full throttle, perhaps spurred on by the knowledge that their main competitors were out to make amends for the 2002 noSno freestyle challenge, when MBS cleaned up, and also the respect the Americans have for the downhill skills of team noSno.

People had to wait until late afternoon to watch team noSno commence with their practice session and they watched as the course bit back, with the team initially struggling to get to grips with the wet conditions. Even Potter was spat off on his first couple of runs before getting to grips with it and making a clean run, followed shortly afterwards by Chris McCarthy. By the end of the day it was clear that the weather was going to play a large part in how the racing turned out.

Saturday the weather was overcast with frequent heavy showers, but the periods of sun in between quickly dried sections of the track, the action today was going to be against the clock, with each rider having three timed solo runs. The best time out of the three runs was used for qualifying for the dual and quad races, team MBS got off to a good start when Jason Lee set a time of 21 seconds on his first run but unfortunately for him, his time was disallowed as he went outside the boundaries of the track. It looked like no one would get near this time as the weather kept things tight with a clean run being something of a rarity, the pressure was on a lot of the top riders to make there third run count or risk failing to qualify for the duals and quads. Personifying this was Andy Potter who had put in two very average times due

to wipe-outs but came on strong in his third setting the second fastest time for the day.

The end of the first days racing saw team noSno taking the top three spots with MBS riders, Jason Lee and Mark Pettiferr, placing in 4th and 5th respectively, The Ladies category saw our very own Nik 'the chick' Wainright in first position. The under 14s winner was Jack Herriot, the under 18s went to Jack Herniman and the Masters saw favourite Steve Birkbeck beaten by Mal Seward. Respect to Paul Butler and Paul Hogan for qualifying for Sundays racing as they have only been boarding for a short time and for choosing the Blinder as their first comp has got to be applauded.



Saturday evening saw an impromptu freestyle jam on the table top (big up to Rhys) and much aerial skill and silliness on the water jump (big up to Jack aka Chewy for his over water acrobatics) followed by a huge fire for the riders to gather round, dry off and raise their spirits. The beer tent opened, the bands began to play and as the sun went down, people reflected on the day's events swapping stories and making predictions for the next days racing. Many riders had not seen each other since the end of last season and drank late into the night catching up and been introduced to new faces.

Sunday started of promisingly with some very exciting racing in the under 14s under 18s and Masters category both in the dual and quads, the masters was made more interesting by the decision for Nik Wainwright to race in the Masters category as unfortunately an old injury aggravated by a slam during the time trials saw Lorna (Northern Face ATB), the only other female entrant, withdrawing from Sundays racing. Nik showed she could mix it with the big boys, been unlucky not to take the win in the dual and placing a close third in the quads. The Open class was not as lucky with the weather, as the rain got heavier and more frequent as the day went on. However this did not stop some of the fastest and craziest racing of the weekend with the Chris McCarthy/Leon Robbins dual.

Leon Robbins took a massive air off the last berm and almost succeeded in landing it on the final drop in, if he had, he would have took first over Chris who was on his tail all the way, But Leon couldn't make the landing stick and took a hard slam Chris slammed hard too but had just about had enough left in him to get back up and take the win although visibly shaken by the crash. Chris carried on despite his injury and took a well-deserved first place on current British downhill champ MBS's Mark Pettifer.

The weather was to have the final say in the weekend as bad weather meant the open quads and slalom events had to be cancelled, this was due to the ambulance which was covering the event, becoming bogged down at the bottom of the track.

There were no hard feelings as everybody appreciated that it would not be wise for the quads to go ahead on a track as fast and demanding as the blinder without medical cover. This event was a credit to its organisers and left everybody hungry for more showing that the down to earth attitude of top riders and the enthusiasm of people new to the sport will be a recipe for an outstanding 2003 season.

words by leon dove

The "Ride The Hill" and noSno Downhill Challenge

SCUZ MOUNTAINBOARDING 20

COMPETITION TIME

The lovely folk at TKC/Scrub, purveyors of fine mountainboards and mountainboarding gear, have been extremely generous and have offered up a few little mountainboard related pressies for the inaugural first issue! Being as Scrub were so generous with their hand outs, we're having not one, not three but two competitions!

First up is the Scuzzine "Mystery Quiz" competition.

We like life to be easy, here at Scuz, and as such we're making competition entry life much easier by giving you the answer. However, you have to give us the question to the answer. Failing anyone answering the question correctly, we'll give the prize, a set of egg shocks, a set of bearings and whatever finds it's way into Andy's pocket while passing by the local Asda, out to the most deserved entry. So without further ado...

The answer is "17".

What is the question?

Our second quiz, we decided to call the Scuzzine "What The Fuck Is It" competition, for reasons that will become clear.

Alongside the wonderful and very handy Scrub egg shocks and bearings that were put up for prizes, Scrub also bundled a pair of.. well, we really don't know. Take a look at the photo below and if you know "What The Fuck It Is" then you can have them.

It's as simple as that. Email answers to scuz@nobs.org.uk.



What the fuck is it?

DANDY WARHOLS, LIVE IN LEEDS.

Ah, there's nothing like a bit of rock n roll!

A crowd as mixed as the music the band play is still filing in as the psychedelic noise starts, with "Be In".

The Dandy Warhols have presence, a very mixed presence though, over the course of a mammoth 3-hour plus set. All the favourites are there, the rocking "Not if you were the last junky on earth", a Courtney solo with "Everyday should be a holiday", "Minnesota", and "Boys better" (complete with full on windmills from guitarist Peter!).

At times staring right into your eyes, with full on intensity, at times looking clearly bored, the Dandy Warhols aren't a straightforward rock outfit, but I think that's part of their appeal. They go from soaking up the admiration from the crowd, to leaving the song usual structure, and meandering off into unexplored musical territories, including a brief foray into dub reggae at one point.

It is at these times you know the Warhols aren't doing this to make money, they love music, at times you feel like you might as well not be there; the band seem content to play to themselves, jamming spectacularly. And it's just when it starts to sound monotonous, that's when they bring it back on, straight into a crowd pleaser, and sure enough, everyone obliges by pogoing enthusiastically.

Not since Fugazi last year have I known a band play for so long, another tribute to the fact that these guys love making music, and I'm sure would be doing the same whether 10 people or 1,000 show up.

"I have never seen them sound so good", a young fan gushes enthusiastically, "I've seen them twice before, and sometimes they get too high before they come on!"

The Dandy Warhols sound is undeniably more to British tastes, hailing from Portland Oregon, leaving the heavier rock to the yanks, The Warhols psychedelic post indie, is more mature and tongue in cheek than most of their American contemporaries.

That's fine with us.

If last night's gig is anything to go by, the Dandy Warhols have much more noise to make this side of the pond, before they are anywhere near finished. If you like their music, go and see them live, and if not, there's quite clearly



Don't be fooled by the single; Radiohead's sixth offering to the world sees a welcome return to the old glory days of crunching guitars and swirling rhythms. Track three was an odd choice to represent 'Hail to the Thief,' not because its bad, but because its so Amnesiac, and because nearly all the other tracks are better! Maybe Radiohead aren't ready yet to admit that they've stopped fooling around and started making music again. Which isn't to say that Kid A and Amnesiac were actually bad albums at all. Were they by any other band I might even praise them. But for Radiohead offerings they just weren't on form. The heart wasn't there.

'Hail to the Thief' is not merely an Albarn-ian 'they-didn't-buy-the-weird-new-stuff-so-dredge-up-the-pop-again' - this album sees them incorporate many of their new found nob-twiddling skills. But they're not only standing round twiddling their nobs this time. So we have innovative drum n bass beats that actually mesh with the guitars, we have Eels-esque spoken poetry, funereal hand claps, together with the usual acrid lyrics, brittle-sweet voice and alien instruments.

Its not quite OK Computer, but its not Amnesiac either. You can hear that this was an album they actually wanted to be making. Radiohead are coming back.

review by ellen clarke



MP3-hating and bordering on ancient-rockers Metallica, after a probably well deserved break - counting all those millions is hard work - they finally return with a new album. While I've never been a massive Metallica fan (I own the Black album, that says it all), I was pleasantly surprised by their latest offering.

The production of the album, by Bob Rock, is something that many people have questioned as it doesn't sound so much as "raw", but could perhaps be more accurately described as "shit". Apparently they have tried to go back to their garage roots and record a less "produced" album. And this they most certainly have.

As far as the songs go, I quite liked them! Metallica for me has always been about 80s cock rock, but a little heavier than that, with guitar solos-a-plenty. St. Anger is a much more modern album in comparison with anything they've ever done before and is bordering on "nu-metal", although I dare say the combined force that is Metallica and ex-Suicidal Tendencies bassist, would no doubt "kick my ass" for saying so.

So having given Metallica a royal slagging off in fine British tradition, why do I like this album? It simply rocks.

review by welly

ROCK N ROLL, D.I.Y. STYLE, DOWN @ ASPIRE.



Aspire are a local anarchist/activist crew, who are currently running their sixth squatted social centre. Vegan café's, a free shop, prisoner support, underground film festivals, indigenous and Palestinian solidarity, indoor home-made skate ramps, all-night parties, and rock n roll shows have all come to characterise a very exciting non-hierarchical anti-capitalist movement who are achieving great things in Leeds.

For more information on aspire, visit www.a-spire.org.uk, or email zhhh. Their 6th squatted social centre was the venue, for an evening of hard rocking chaos. The old house is a bustling hive of activity as we saunter in, clutching the obligatory cheap alcohol that fuels a show of this sort. Information on ongoing green issues, animal and human rights campaigns adorns the walls, as do paintings in various degrees of completion (fancy doing something? Go ahead is their philosophy). The gig room is the front room. The window is covered by a huge camouflage tarpaulin with "NO WAR" painted on it in big red letters, and the banner running across the right hand side of the room is black and reads "reclaimed".

The usual faces are out to see the bands, consisting of Indicator, Shit the Bed, Human Fly, The Double Six Flight Team, and Eighty Six.

The Human Fly two bands, For those who mixing solid over which dissimilar to I guess it's does with

They rock, a head-energy. now, and every time I guitarist plays difficult harmonic



are first on as we arrive (having just missed the first oops!!).

have yet to hear of Human Fly, try driving rock, with a bit of psychedelia screaming vocals roar (not too QOTSA) and you almost got the FLY. too hard to put into words what the Fly music.

what more can be said? Each song is banging anthem of joyous and raucous I have seen The Fly play a few times can't believe how good they are. Second notes over the top of the main riffs while

convulsing madly, making the Fly's stage presence better than most big rock outfits. If you see flyers for this band playing near you, go and see them. I dare you to differ with my opinion!

Next up are screamo thrashers The Double Six Flight Team, a small man on drums is known to us already (The Madness is heeling nicely after bunk diving escapades in Edinburgh for the NOBS road trip) and from the point the guitarist kicks the first riff off, there is no respite, and no point in hiding.

The vocalist just screams his way through the songs, possessed by something infinitely more agitated than a devil, forcing those with drinks to cower and protect. Their set is one of the better ones, all the levels correct (good work and thanks to Mr Reeves, for entertaining us) and you really get the feel of the technical quality of the music, with its surreal time signatures, and songs containing 10 or 12 different riffs. A delightfully political vocal content, is a little let down, maybe due to ferocity, but you can pick up demo CDs with it all in at their shows.

Next up were Eighty Six, who I haven't seen play for about 2 years. I was expecting alkaline trio like girlfriend punk, and was lusting forward to something a bit easier going to end the evening's entertainment. Easier going? Maybe, but girlfriend pop Eighty Six are no longer. Edgier, more mature, jagged, a very full sound for a three piece outfit, the singer-guitarist's voice has settled, and he looks more confident facing the crowd. Eighty Six have come on loads.

All in all, music, surroundings and company made for an excellent night. Big Thank you's to all involved.



Thoughts of DIY? Why the fuck not?

If you want to contact these bands, for CD's or to add them to the bill of your show contact: Human Fly, Jon 07740338324. The Double Six Flight Team call Dicko 07855855480. For Eighty Six email vote_tyler_durden_86@hotmail.com. Didn't get details of the other bands, as I was a bit late in, what a twat.

injury of the month



WANTED.

Bruises. Blood. Breaks. Bails. That's bails. With an I. Not an L.

We all know that chicks dig scars so let's see how the latest souvenir blemishes came about.

The two specimens above were a result of the NOBS May Road Trip up to Scotland. Madness, on the left, only briefly stepped on a board the whole weekend after a bit of top bunk diving left him in a bit of a mess for the whole weekend, as can be seen above. Falling a good 6 foot, while fast asleep, is quite a feat in itself, but connecting

head with an unfortunately placed chair below on his vertical descent added the final touches. Madness, you live up to your name.



On our right, we see the world famous Edd Firth. Better known as Edd Srith. This was a proper mountainboarding incident, and although the full intensity of the affliction can't really be seen, Edd, while participating in the NOBS final bandit run down Midlothian Golf course, came a cropper when an unsuspecting drop off appeared. Bailing on a Dirtsurfer, and then our man, Andy, emerging from the top of said drop off, decided Edd's nose looked a comfy spot to place the front wheels of his noSno. Result! Edd's nose broke and Andy's ribs followed suit.

We KNOW that you can do better. So show us what you're made of, or at the very least, what's left of you. Drop us an email to scuz@nobs.org.uk with your photos and stories. Injury of the month will win a fantastic prize that Andy, as we speak, is out stealing.



everything except mountainboarding is shit.

SWWZ